



## Texas Department of Public Safety Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

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|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Event Name</b>         | 26-27 April Severe Weather Event |
| <b>Date</b>               | April 28, 2015                   |
| <b>Time</b>               | 1400                             |
| <b>Operational Period</b> | 04/28/2015                       |
| <b>Report Number</b>      | SITREP #2                        |

| <b>Regions Affected</b>     |             |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| <b>DPS Regions Affected</b> | 1,2,5 and 6 |
| <b>DDC's Active</b>         |             |

### STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION:

On the evening of April 26<sup>th</sup> into the early morning of April 27<sup>th</sup> supercell thunderstorms developed just south of Interstate Highway (IH) 20 across Eastland and Comanche Counties. These storms moved east-northeast roughly following the shape of IH-20 west of IH-35 to the IH-35W corridor. These supercells produced very large hail and several EF-0 tornadoes. The tornadoes primarily occurred in sparsely populated areas. The storms mainly damaged trees and produced light damage to residences and businesses in their path, impacting Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) Regions 1, 2, 5 and 6. High winds toppled trees, downed powerlines and caused damage to homes and road closures throughout the state, as the storm systems moved southwestward to northeastward along the I-35 Corridor. The storm systems continued to move through Southeast Texas. Power outages are widespread but gradually being restored. Numerous secondary roads are closed in impacted areas. At this time no injuries or fatalities have been reported.

A National Weather Service (NWS) survey team surveyed damage caused by several tornadoes in North Texas on Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. The team confirmed 8 tornadoes caused damage from Comanche County to Johnson County. All of these tornadoes have been given a preliminary rating of EF-0. Additional areas of damage will be investigated in the next few days and the total number may change. For additional information about these tornadoes, visit the homepage (<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/fwd/>). Preliminary damage assessments are ongoing in impacted areas.



## OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES:

1. Protect life and property.
2. Support rapid & effective response.
3. Collect and disseminate accurate incident information to improve decision-making.
4. Maintain communication with impacted local jurisdictions.

## REGION 1 (Includes DDCs 4, 5, 6, and 22)

### **DDC 4 – Hurst (Includes Denton, Erath, Hood, Johnson, Palo Pinto, Parker, Somervell, Tarrant, and Wise Counties)**

**Erath County:** County Road 172 had trees down with road blockage but, roadway has been cleared. **Cattail Creek MHP** has been asked to issue a boil water notice due to a ground storage tank hatch being opened during the storm.

**The City of Stephenville:** WWTP is online, but overflowing. Backup power kept everything online; the system is set up on two different power grids and never lost power.

**The City of Dublin:** The city had several power lines down and sustained the majority of Erath County's hail damage. WWTP lagoons have power and one lift station was being repaired, but was overflowing as of 10:40 am on April 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **Hood County:**

**Johnson County:** On the evening of April 26<sup>th</sup> and into early morning of April 27<sup>th</sup> the supercell thunderstorms that developed just south of Interstate Highway (IH) - 20 across Eastland and Comanche Counties produced very large hail and several EF-0 tornadoes. The tornadoes and thunderstorms mainly impacted sparsely populated areas, damaging trees and producing light damage to residences and businesses. One of the supercells became nearly stationary over Johnson County for two to three hours. This nearly stationary storm produced

four tornadoes as its updraft cycled over southern Johnson County. The storm also produced a swath of straight-line wind damage from Fisherman's Paradise in far southwest Johnson County to the northeast near Rio Vista. The most destructive aspect of this storm was likely the flash flooding produced as the nearly stationary storm dumped over six inches of rain over large portions of central and eastern Johnson County. Many county roads across Johnson County remained closed. County Road (CR) 210 east of Rio Vista between CR 174 and Farm-to-Market (FM) 1204 road is impassible because the bridge is possibly washed out. Reported multiple roadways are inaccessible due to flooding, debris, or being washed out. TxDOT and county road crews are clearing and assessing the damage and need for repairs. The Johnson County Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC), and the DPS Disaster District Chair completed a helicopter aerial damage assessment fly-over on Monday. Volunteers with the North Texas Off Road Recovery helped clear away fallen trees on Monday. There are no unmet needs or requests for resources at this time.

A Johnson County Sheriff's Deputy was injured after the tornadoes struck North Texas. The deputy was on patrol when the road near a swollen creek collapsed. The deputy crawled out of the side of the submerged vehicle and pulled himself out of the water, according to the department.



Photo: Johnson County Sheriff's Office

### **Palo Pinto County:**

**Parker County:** Parker County had tree and debris that were removed from roadways as well as downed power lines. There was some wind damage to some structures as well as damage to a home from a lightning strike.

**Somervell County:** County Road 1008 has water over the roadway as of 11:30 AM on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Power companies continued to work to restore electricity throughout the day on Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup>.

**City of Glen Rose:** The City of Glen Rose reported that an unknown volume of wastewater was released from the WWTP with potential impact to the Paluxy River, which leads to the Brazos River. The WWTP experienced a brief power surge where the backup generators were utilized, and the plant never fully lost power. The lift stations were not impacted and have constantly been operational. The discharge was caused by I&I from the large amount of rain between 11:00 PM and 2:00 AM. As of 2:00 PM, the discharge was being controlled. The facility was advised to submit a media notification due to the potential discharge volume. An estimated discharge volume was unavailable at this time.

**DDC 6 – Tyler (Includes Rains, Wood, Camp, Upshur, Marion, Van Zandt, Smith, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Anderson, Cherokee, Rusk, and Panola Counties)**

**Cherokee County:** One person was rescued from a massive sink hole on Wylie Road, located in the Shady Brook area. Because of the 35-foot sink hole, crews have shut down the road.







**Region 2 (Includes DDCs 13, 14, 15, 16 Houston, 16 Texas City, 16 Conroe, and DDC Pierce)**

Tornado warnings were issued for Grimes, Walker, Washington and Montgomery Counties on April 27<sup>th</sup>. A tornado touched down in Grimes County causing major damage to four homes.

**DDC 13 – Bryan (Includes Leon, Robertson, Madison, Brazos, Burleson, Grimes, and Washington Counties)**

**Grimes County:** The American Red Cross completed its damage assessment for Grimes County where five homes were destroyed, seven homes sustained major damage, and nine homes sustained minor damage. There were no injuries or fatalities. TxDOT had all assigned roadways reopened and cleared of debris by 12:00 PM, Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Madison County:** Madison County experienced some flooding patches along some of the county's roads, especially in the Precinct 4 area.

**DDC 14 – Lufkin (Includes Shelby, Nacogdoches, Houston, Angelina, San Augustine, Sabine, Trinity, San Jacinto, Polk, Tyler, Jasper, and Newton Counties)**

**Jasper County:** State Highway (SH) 62 in Buna remains closed due to downed trees.

**Newton County:** Issued a Disaster Declaration for flooding damages on Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Polk County:** Issued a Disaster Declaration for severe thunderstorm damages on Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **DDC 15 – Beaumont (Includes Jefferson, Hardin, and Orange Counties)**

Power outages continue to affect over 8,300 customers in Hardin, Jefferson, and Orange Counties. About 90% of Jasper/Newton Counties' customers are without power.

### **DDC 16 – Conroe (Includes Montgomery, Liberty, Waller, and Walker Counties)**

**Walker County:** Walker County sustained severe storm damage early this morning, due to strong winds and rain. Many farm-to-market (FM) roads were closed initially due to downed power lines, and trees strewn across roadways. All are now open. Secondary roads in Spring Lake Subdivision and Elkins Lake Subdivision also were impacted by downed power lines and trees. Walker County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) has Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) reporting damages and road closures. Huntsville Fire Department (FD) is on standby to respond in Elkins Lake due to damage to several homes and power outages. New Waverly ISD Junior High and Middle Schools remain closed due to loss of power. Park Road 40 into Huntsville State Park is closed due to high water, closing the State Park until further notice by Park Ranger. TxDOT closed FM 2989 at 10:00 PM last night due to high water. Power outages continue. So far, approximately twenty homes have been impacted by storm damage. The damage assessments are ongoing.

### **Region 5 (Includes DDCs 1, 2, 3, and 7)**

There were several reports of large hail and tornadic activity throughout Region 5. A report of a tornado touchdown with no significant damage was received for Coleman County but a tornado has not been confirmed.

### **DDC 7 – Abilene (Includes Knox, Kent, Stonewall, Haskell, Throckmorton, Scurry, Fisher, Jones, Shackelford, Stephens, Mitchell, Nolan, Taylor, Callahan, Eastland, Runnels, Coleman, Brown, and Comanche Counties)**

**Callahan County:** Callahan County Emergency Management reports that numerous dirt roads have been significantly damaged near Cross Plains due to overnight heavy rains and subsequent flash flooding. Local officials are working to identify the roadways involved, the extent of road damage, and the impact. A damage assessment is being conducted at this time.

### **Region 6 (Includes DDCs 11, 23, 12, 18, and 17)**

DDC 11/23 – Waco (Includes Bell, Bosque, Coryell, Falls, Freestone, Hamilton, Hill, Lampasas, Limestone, McLennan, Milam, Mills, and San Saba Counties)

Tornado touchdowns and high wind damages were reported in Hill and Bosque Counties, with some road closures due to flooding and ongoing debris removal. Multiple power outages were reported. Minor damages were reported in Bosque County, including structural damage to a barn. The Bosque County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is still activated for coordination and response. TxDOT is assisting with debris removal and utility companies are working on restoring power.

**Power Outages:** (Power companies reporting > 100 customers without power: Numbers continue to change rapidly as restoration continues).

| Region | District | Power Company               | County   | Customers Affected |
|--------|----------|-----------------------------|----------|--------------------|
| 2      | Multiple | Entergy                     | Multiple | 8502               |
| 1 & 2  | Multiple | ONCOR                       | Multiple | 3738               |
| 1      | Multiple | United Cooperative Services | Multiple | 1157               |
| 2      | Multiple | Center Point                | Multiple | 118                |
| 2      | 16       | MidSouth                    | Walker   | 598                |
| 2      | 16       | Sam Houston Electric Coop   | Walker   | 896                |

**Damage Assessments:** These are preliminary numbers as damage assessments are ongoing.

| Type               | Affected | Minor | Major | Destroyed |
|--------------------|----------|-------|-------|-----------|
| Government         |          |       |       |           |
| Business           |          | 3     | 2     |           |
| Multi-Family       |          |       |       |           |
| Single-Family      |          | 9     | 7     | 5         |
| Manufactured Homes |          |       | 1     | 2         |

#### **Disaster Declarations/Disaster Summary Outlines:**

- Newton County due to vegetative debris, power outages, and river levels.
- Sabine County due to high winds and/or tornado damages.
- Polk County due to vegetative debris, power outages, and river levels.

#### **DDCs/EOCs Activated:**

Jasper/Sabine/Newton Counties EOC

#### **Infrastructure:**

**Water/Waste Water Outages:** The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) continues to assist impacted local jurisdictions in assessing their water/waster water systems. Several waste water treatment plants (WWTPs) have reported potential impacts to waters of the state due to the storm event. The region is monitoring the plants' responses to ensure that human health and the environment are being protected. The plants will continue to follow normal notification procedures. Following are the current updates from TCEQ.

## **Updates to Potential Impacts to Water Systems due to the Storm Event**

Several waste water treatment plants (WWTPs) and public water systems (PWS) have reported potential impacts to water due to the storm event. The TCEQ DFW Region Staff conducted follow-up calls to the most severely impacted plants to check on the status of these systems.

### **Water/Wastewater Treat Plant:**

The City of Stephenville (Erath County) WWTP had over 10 million gallons/ day (MGD) due to inflow and infiltration (I&I), when the plant is permitted for 3 MGD. No power outage was reported at the WWTP and the City is reporting a 12,500 gallon sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) from the grit chamber when it was overwhelmed by rainwater at the plant which entered the onsite lift station. The City proposes constructing a berm to divert local runoff from the lift station.

The City of Dublin (Erath County) reported two SSOs reported totaling 6000 gallons, one from a lift station which was caused by a power outage. The lift station was repaired yesterday at 11:00 AM. The other was caused by I&I, which the city is in the process of replacing 1.5 miles of old collection main.

The City of Glen Rose (Somervell County) was contacted and a message was left for an update. The region will continue to follow up with the City to ensure that the WWTP is back to normal operating conditions.

The Retreat (Johnson County) WWTP is being contacted by the region to determine the status of the plant.

### **Public Water System:**

Cattail Creek MHP (Erath County) was asked to issue a boil water notice due to a ground storage tank hatch being opened during the storm. Several messages have been left for the owner to check on the status of the system. The region will continue to follow up with the system.

Fisherman's Paradise (Johnson County) stated that the plant has electricity as of yesterday. The water system is back at normal operating conditions.

Equestrian Estates (Erath County) was left a message regarding the status of the water system. The region will continue to follow up with the system.

City of Grandview (Johnson County) reports that power was restored yesterday at 11:30 AM. The water system is back at normal operating conditions.

City of Alvarado (Johnson County) reports that electricity for Well #2 has been restored and is back in service. The water system is back at normal operating conditions.

Buena Vista Bethel SUD (Ellis County) has reported electricity was restored yesterday at 5:00. The water system is back at normal operating conditions.



## Debris Management Updates

On April 27th, 2015, The City of Cleburne submitted to the TCEQ DFW Region office a Request to Operate a Temporary Debris Site. The City of Cleburne is assisting the City of Rio Vista with debris management. The temporary debris management will be utilized for staging/stockpiling for vegetative debris only. The ultimate disposal decisions are currently being worked out between the two cities. On April 27th, 2015, TCEQ DFW Region Staff conducted a pre-site inspection of the proposed temporary debris management site and did not note any objections to the city operating at the location. On April 28, 2015, TCEQ notified both cities that there were no objections to the preceding with their plan.

**Communications Outages:** Server down at Jasper/Sabine/Newton Counties EOC due to power outages.

**Roadways:** Numerous secondary roads are closed or are flooded. Other areas will continue to be assessed and evaluated.

| Disaster District | County      | Road              | Status                         |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| 11/23             | Bosque      | FM56              | Debris                         |
| 04                | Johnson     | City of Rio Vista | Debris                         |
| 04                | Johnson     | FM 916            | Closed                         |
| 04                | Johnson     | CR 210            | Flooding                       |
| 04                | Somervell   | CR 1008           | Flooding                       |
| 06                | Cherokee    | FM 855            | Flooding                       |
| 06                | Cherokee    | FM 1247           | Flooding                       |
| 06                | Cherokee    | FM 1857           | Flooding                       |
| 06                | Cherokee    | FM 23             | Flooding                       |
| 13                | Leon        | FM 1848           | Flooding                       |
| 14                | Angelina    | FM 1819           | Debris                         |
| 14                | Angelina    | US 69             | Debris                         |
| 14                | Angelina    | US 59             | Debris                         |
| 14                | Angelina    | SL 287            | Debris                         |
| 14                | Angelina    | FM 2743           | Debris                         |
| 14                | Nacogdoches | FM 343            | Closed/Downed Electrical Lines |
| 16                | Walker      | Park Rd 40        | Closed                         |
| 16                | Walker      | FM 2989           | Closed                         |
| 11                | Hill        | FM 933            | Closed @ Nolan River           |
|                   |             |                   |                                |

**Airport Closures/Delays:** None reported.

**School Closures/Delayed Opening:** A few schools in Jasper, Sabine and Tyler Counties closed or delayed opening 1-2 hours.

**Government Closures:** Jasper County Courthouse.

**Fatalities/Mass Casualties/Injuries:** One injury reported in Cherokee County and one injury reported in Johnson County.

**Shelters Activated:**

Ellis County – Maypearl High School (Due to street flooding)

Erath County – Texas Southern University, Stephenville City Library, Thompson Student Center Gym

**RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS  
REPORTS**

**Texas Department of Public Safety (TXDPS):** Disaster District personnel as well as Texas Division of Emergency Management Regional State and District Coordinators continue to maintain contact and assist as needed.

**Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD):** TPWD had two Game Wardens assisting with damage assessments in Rio Vista, Johnson County. Several other counties had Wardens out observing only.

**Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT):** Assisting local jurisdictions with roadway obstructions (downed trees and debris removal) in regions 1,2,5 and 6. The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) reported that the Stephenville area TxDOT Office sustained some damage and flooding and vehicles were impacted due to hail. The Hood County TxDOT Office had minor issues due to a tree falling into the maintenance yard.

**Voluntary Agencies Active in Disasters (VOADs):** VOADs (The Salvation Army American Red Cross Texas Baptist Men, and Southern Baptists of Texas) are responding to the recent series of storms by providing canteens, tarps, shelters and chainsaw crews to assess damages and assist local jurisdictions.

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ):** Assisting in identifying public water and waste water systems that may have sustained damage in the impacted areas.

**FINAL COMMENTS:** The SOC is at currently at Level IV (Normal Conditions). The Texas Division of Emergency Management is closely monitoring the situation and is prepared to coordinate resource support as required.

**The four levels of SOC activation are:**

- Level I (Emergency Conditions)
- Level II (Escalated Response Conditions)
- Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)
- Level IV (Normal Conditions)

*This Situation Report can be found on the TDEM webpage at: [www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem).*

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